ANIMAL X

Chapter 22

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WHOSE KID IS IT?
I KNOW FROM TAKING CARE OF WATER BUFFALO.
I KNOW THAT SCENT FEMALES GIVE OFF.
WHOSE IS IT?

ANIMAL X

CHAPTER 22

YOU'RE HEAD OVER HEELS AREN'T YOU, MINATO!!
YOU REALLY DON'T GIVE A SHIT WHAT HAPPENS TO THE BLOOD, DO YOU!?
WHAT!?
I'M TELLING YOU, FUCKER, WATCH YOUR MOUTH!
I WON'T LET YOU SAY ANOTHER WORD ABOUT YUUJI!!
DO YOU REALLY WANT SOME HUMAN THAT MUCH!?
YEAH!
I'D GIVE UP MY LIFE FOR HIM!!

YOU'RE SOME KID
YOU'RE CRAZY, BUT WE'LL DO WHAT WE CAN.
GIVE US A BREAK, HE DOESN'T FEEL WELL...
HE NEEDS SOME FRESH AIR.

ONCE WE'VE COOLED OUR HEADS, LET'S TALK,
MINATO.
HAN!

...YEAH
CAN YOU STAND?

I DON'T... WANT IT... I'M GOING TO ABORT THE CHILD.
DON'T WORRY, JUST RELAX. YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF...
I DON'T WANT TO DO THIS!!
WHY?!
PLEASE, JUST CARRY THE BABY. THAT'S ALL I ASK!!
THAT BABY IS OF OUR BLOOD, WE'LL RAISE IT!!
SHUT YOUR FACE, JACK-ASS!!
I REF-USE!!

BECAUSE IT MIGHT BE... MINE.
AT A TIME LIKE THIS?! YOU'RE SHAME-LESS!
IT'S BECAUSE IT'S A TIME LIKE THIS!! I SHALL TAKE FULL RESPON-SIBILITY!!
DO YOU WANT ME TO BEAT YOU TO DEATH!?
MINATO! IT'S FINE! I SAID IT'S FINE!!
IT'S NOT "FINE"!!
...IT'S FINE.
I'M JUST... USED TO... THIS KIND OF THING BY NOW, SO...
YUUJI...

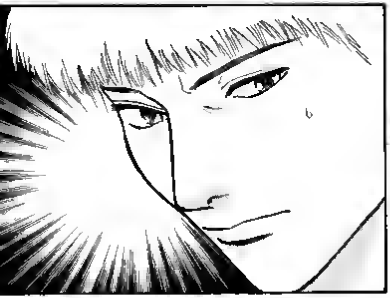
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT GETTING AN ABORTION? TELL ME.
...
LEAVE THEM ALONE!!
...IT'S NOT YOURS.
YOU'LL HAVE THE BABY, RIGHT?
ARE HUMANS LIKE THAT?
DO YOU ONLY LOVE YOUR OWN CHILDREN?
?
HUH?
I DON'T THINK I COULD RAISE SUCH A CHILD LIKE I RAISE YUI.
WHAT IF WE RAISED A CHILD . AND IT STARTED TO TAKE AFTER ONE OF THEM. .?

IN MY VILLAGE, CHILDREN WERE TREASURED BY EVERYBODY, ME INCLUDED.
THE MEN OF THE VILLAGE ALL BECAME BROTHERS AND FATHERS TO ME.
I GUESS HUMAN FAMILIES ARE DIFFERENT, BUT...
WHENEVER I GET TO SEE OR HOLD LITTLE KIDS I CAN'T HELP THINKING HOW CUTE AND AWESOME THEY ARE.
SO I WAS THINKING... OF DOING THE SAME THING.
MINATO

YEAH ...
YE..H ...
...
DON'T BE DEPRESSED... IT'LL MAKE THE BABY SAD...
IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO THINK THAT WAY?
AM I WRONG?
LIM, YUUJI?
MUCH MORE OF AN ADULT THAN I THOUGHT...
YOU REALLY ARE...
HUH?
WHEN THEY START COMING IN, CAN I MASSAGE YOUR CHEST?

I... I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE THEN!
THAT'S WHY I'LL MASSAGE 'EM!! YOU'LL FEEL SO MUCH BETTER THAT.
THAT HURT, YOU KNOW...
YOU KEPT THEM ALL TO YOURSELF, AND YET I GUESS UNTIL THEY WENT AWAY I REALLY WANTED TO TOUCH THEM TOO...
HEY, YOU JUST SAID I WAS AN ADULT!
...YOU...
WAHOO!!
YOU LOOK LIKE SUCH A KID...
SAID IT WAS YOUR CHILD WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT.
I THOUGHT... I THOUGHT I'D DIE FROM HAPPINESS.

DON'T TALK ABOUT DYING.
LET'S LIVE ON TOGETHER.
...OKAY.



IF THE BLOOD OF CHINA SHOULD HAPPEN TO RUN THROUGH ITS VEINS THEN ALL THE BETTER.
EVERYTHING WILL BE GOING ACCORDING TO MY PLAN...

AHH, HOW FORTUITOUS! I HAVE TO REPORT THIS TO THE ELDERS.
I CAN'T LOOK THEM IN THE EYE.
EVEN THOUGH IT MAY BE YOUR CHILD?

THEIR PAIN IS JUST BEGINNING
...YOU...
YOU'RE JEALOUS, AREN'T YOU?
BECAUSE YOU KNOW YUUJI WON'T EVEN GIVE YOU A SECOND GLANCE
I WOULD NEVER...!!
ON WHAT GROUNDS DO YOU ACCUSE ME!?
YOU'RE SO YOUNG
TH- THE SAME GOES FOR YOU!!
YOU'VE BEEN WANTING TO STEAL HIM AWAY ALL THIS TIME, YOURSELF!!
...I...
JUST WANT YUUJI TO BE HAPPY.
EVEN IF HE CAN'T BE WITH ME...

HURRY UP AND ANSWER THE PHONE...
HI. I'M CURRENTLY OVERSEAS SO PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AFTER THE TONE...
HELLO, IT'S ME...
YOU'RE A HYPOCRITE...
CLICK
DAMN IT!! WHERE IS SHE!?
SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT
RIGHT WHEN I NEED HER TOO!
SCREECH

S-SORRY!!
H-HEY!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING GIRL!?
SHE'S NEARBY, SPREAD OUT!!
U
THEY COULDN'T HAVE TRACED MY CALL THAT QUICK!!
THAT'S WAY TOO FAST!
AFTER HER!!
THIS WAY!!
WE'VE FOUND HER!

WHO CAN I RELY ON...!?

YOU'VE GOT A BIT OF COLOR BACK IN YOUR CHEEKS!
Y-YEAH I'M FINE NOW
ISN'T THIS A LITTLE EARLY FOR MORNING SICKNESS, THOUGH?
W-WHEN HE LICKED MY NECK I JUST...
SO THAT'S WHAT DID IT. NO WONDER!!
HEY!!
GET IN HERE!!

I CAN ONLY TELL YOU MORE OR LESS WHERE WE THINK YOUR DAUGHTER IS
!?
WHAT WE KNOW IS SOLID THOUGH, I AM FROM AROUND HERE
WE KNOW TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR TROUBLE

SO,
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU TWO
WOULD YOU COME IN HERE?
A FAVOR?
THIS WAY

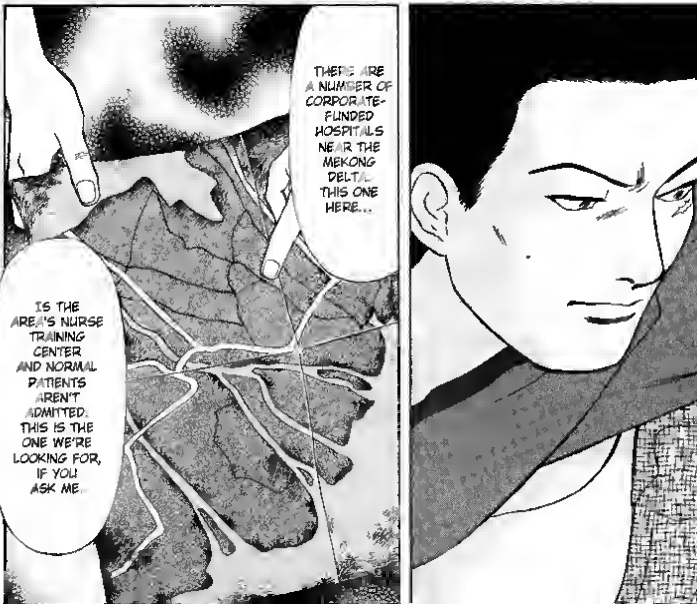
COME IN
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TOMORROW HOLDS
WE DON'T WANT TO BE USED BY CAPITALISM LIKE THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE
WE HAVE TO FIGHT AGAINST THE HUMANS SOON
HE'S MY ELDER BROTHER HE STEPPED ON A LAND MINE
PLEASE, DON'T LET HIM DIE WITHOUT EVER KNOWING A WOMAN.
MINATO, WOULD YOU ALLOW HIM THIS FEMALE'S BODY? JUST ONCE IS ALL I ASK.

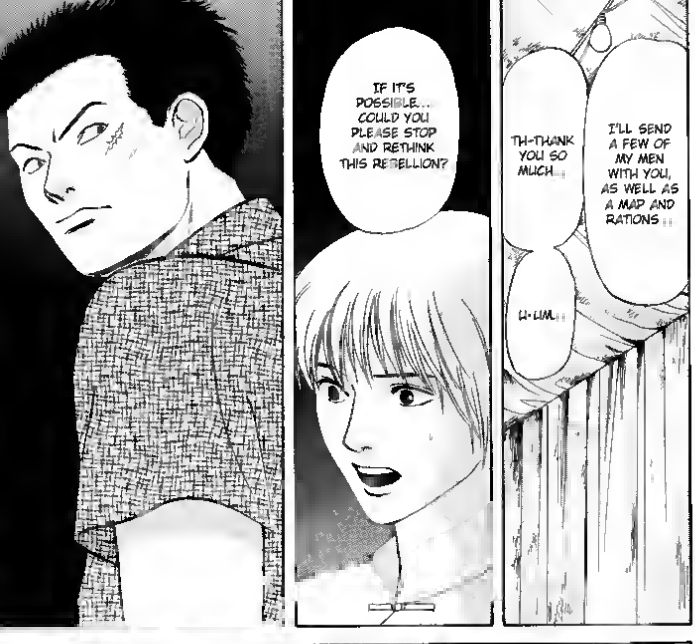
FUCKING IDIOT!!
HE'S MY PRECIOUS OLDER BROTHER, I'M ASKING YOU!!
THIS IS NO JOKE, DAMN IT!! WHAT THE FUCK IS YOUR PROBLEM!?
...
?
A-ARE YOU A DOCTOR OR SOME-THING?
NO, I'M NOT, BUT...
DON'T GIVE UP!! HE WILL BE ABLE TO WALK AGAIN, I'M SURE OF IT!
SHOULD I CONTACT AN ACQUAIN-TANCE OF MINE?
WHY WOULD YOU DO ALL THAT FOR US!?
HOW THE HELL ARE WE SUP-POSED TO GET OUR HANDS ON THAT!?
HIDRO-WHAT?
IT'S A MANMADE MATERIAL USED FOR REPLACE-MENT JOINTS
WITH THE USE OF HYDROXY-APATITE* GRAFTING HE SHOULD RECOVER

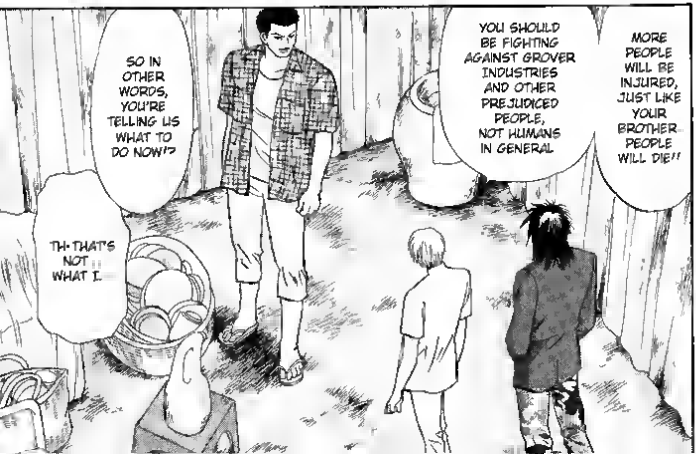
*A CALCIUM PHOSPHATE CERAMIC THAT IS USED AS A BIOMATERIAL IT ONE OF FEW MATERIALS THAT ELICIT AN ACTIVE RESPONSE IN THE BODY AND BONDS. THANK YOU FOR USING THIS WORD SUGIMOTO-SENSEI! REALLY

LEAVE IT! DON'T TOUCH HIM!
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT BEDSORES EXCUSE ME WHILE I DISINFECT THEM.
YOU DON'T TOUCH YUUJI!
HE NEEDS TO RECEIVE THE BEST TREATMENT POSSIBLE IF HE'S TO RECOVER
WHY WOULDN'T I...?
WHY ...?
IT SHOULD HAVE PLENTY OF REHABILITATION EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE.
HE SHOULD BE ADMITTED TO A PROPERLY EQUIPPED FACILITY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
...
Grr
HEY

...SORRY ABOUT ALL THIS EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE PREGNANT.
MY BROTHER GIVES HIS RESPECTS.
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT... I JUST...
THIS IS ALL I CAN DO.


THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CORPORATE-FUNDED HOSPITALS NEAR THE MEKONG DELTA. THIS ONE HERE...
IS THE AREA'S NURSE TRAINING CENTER AND NORMAL PATIENTS AREN'T ADMITTED. THIS IS THE ONE WE'RE LOOKING FOR, IF YOU ASK ME.

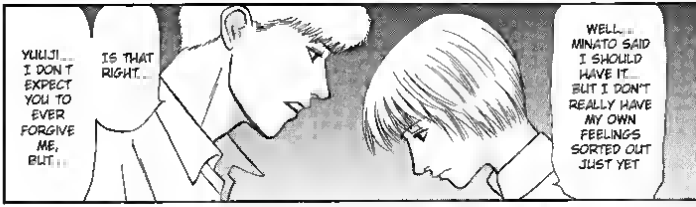

IF IT'S POSSIBLE... COULD YOU PLEASE STOP AND RETHINK THIS REBELLION?
TH-THANK YOU SO MUCH...
I'LL SEND A FEW OF MY MEN WITH YOU, AS WELL AS A MAP AND RATIONS...
U-UM...

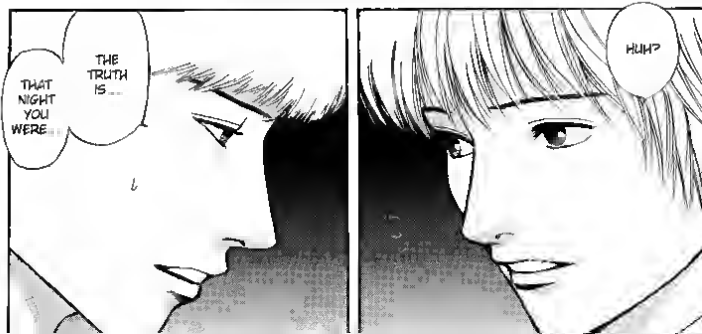

SO IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'RE TELLING US WHAT TO DO NOW!?
TH-THAT'S NOT WHAT I...
YOU SHOULD BE FIGHTING AGAINST GROVER INDUSTRIES AND OTHER PREJUDICED PEOPLE, NOT HUMANS IN GENERAL
MORE PEOPLE WILL BE INJURED, JUST LIKE YOUR BROTHER PEOPLE WILL DIE!!

LET'S MAKE AN ALLIANCE!!
SHI-RAKA-WA--
WE'LL OVERTHROW GROVER INDUSTRIES AND PUT IN PLACE A SYSTEM TO MANAGE A SOCIETY IN WHICH THE BLOOD TAKES PART
AND YOU, YUUJI, WILL BE CENTRAL TO THIS UNION
CREATION, THE MEDICINE THAT SAVED THE BLOOD...
WAS MADE IN THE CENTRIFUGE IN YOUR OWN HOUSE, RIGHT?
HEY! WOULDN'T THAT MAKE YOU FILTHY RICH!?
MAKE AN ANNOUNCE-MENT ALREADY!!

DO YOU NEED ANOTHER HUSBAND?
HUH?
WE'LL START A BUSINESS WITH THE MONEY MADE FROM THE NEW PHARMA-CEUTICAL PATENT, BUT MORE IMPOR-TANTLY...
I GOT IT!!
I-I HADN'T REALLY PLANNED ON IT...
I HAVE.
MINATO AND YUI.
SO— I DON'T...
I'M A NICE GLY, REALLY, SO PLEASE ACCEPT ME!!
UH... UM... I DON'T...
HELL NO!!
MAKE ME ONE OF YOUR HUSBANDS!! I DON'T DIS..PPOINT, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!!

UM... SHIRAKAWA? COULD YOU PROVIDE US WITH A RESCUE BOAT?
SURE, NO PROB-LEM
BUT MORE IMPORT-ANTLY, HOW DO YOU FEEL? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THE BABY?
SUCH A WASTE! AND I REALLY WANTED TO TASTE YOUR BODY TOO
JUST SPEAK UP IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND
BE CAREFUL WITH THAT BABY INSIDE YOU


YUUJI... I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO EVER FORGIVE ME, BUT...
IS THAT RIGHT...
WELL... MINATO SAID I SHOULD HAVE IT... BUT I DON'T REALLY HAVE MY OWN FEELINGS SORTED OUT JUST YET


THAT NIGHT YOU WERE...
THE TRUTH IS...
HUH?

Fwoom
!!
THEY FINALLY SHOWED THEIR FACES, HUH!
WHAT?
WE'RE BEING ATTACKED!

WE WERE WAITING FOR THIS!!
IT'S AN ATTACK!
EVERYONE! GET IN POSITION!
DO YOU MIND IF I LEAVE MY BROTHER UP TO YOU?
WE'RE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING.
HUH?
THIS WAY.
WELL, YOU'RE THOROUGHLY PREPARED
IT GOES FROM HERE TO A RIVERBANK ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF SAIGON.
IT'S A TUNNEL WE EXCAVATED THAT WAS MADE IN THE WAR

WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THE ENEMIES ARE HUMAN AND BESIDES, THE ESCAPE ROUTE IS SECURE
WE'LL FOLLOW ONCE WE'VE STOPPED THESE BASTARDS
HAN!!
SHEN AND I WILL STAY, THESE ENEMIES MAY NOT BE HUMAN
WHAT?
SHIRA-KAWA!! GO WITH YUUJI!
UNDER-STOOD!!
ゴオオオ
Roar

Bang
Bang
IT'S THEM.
HEY! I'M HIT!
THEIR MOVEMENTS ARE TOO FAST FOR HUMANS!!
"THEM?"

ALL RIGHT?
THE REINFORCEMENTS WILL ARRIVE IN A FEW MINUTES!!
JUST MAKE SURE THEY DON'T SLIP AWAY 'TIL THEN!!
ゴ!
ROAR
オ
オ

THIS IS ALL A PARTING GIFT FROM THE US ARMED FORCES— IT MAKES IT HOMEY, DON'T YOU THINK?
WELL, YOU'VE GOT QUITE A FEW THINGS DOWN HERE, HAVEN'T YOU?

NOW THEN,
AFTER SURROUNDING US THEIR PLAN IS TO SMOKE US OUT.
BASI-CALLY,
CAN YOU READ THEIR MOVE-MENTS?

HURRY UP!!
ゴゴゴ RUMBLE
FLIPPIN' SWEET!
IF WE FOLLOW THIS TUNNEL WE'LL COME UP SOMEWHERE BEHIND THEM
ゴゴゴ RUMBLE

THAT'S STRANGE... THEY'RE NOT COMING OUT.
?
BE CAREFUL!! THEY MAY ALREADY BE BEHIND US!
WE MAY BE THE ONES KILLED INSTEAD!!

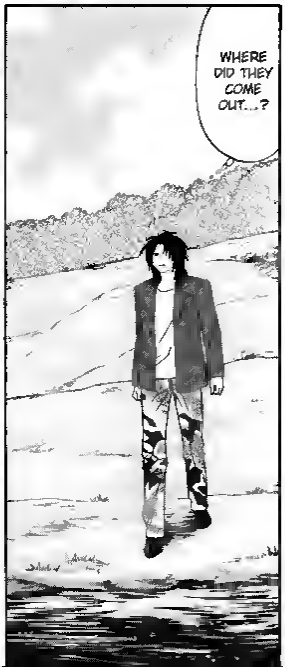
THIS IS GREAT. WHEN THEY TRANSFORM THEY'LL JUST BE EASIER TO SEE!!
BRING IT ON, YOU MONSTERS!!
DASH

BANG
BANG
CALCULATE YOUR FIRING RANGE— MOVE!!
ROGER!!
FWUMP
ROAR

BANG
WE'RE NOT HUMAN AND WE'RE NOT CORPSES
IT'S THEIR BLOOD THAT DID THIS TO US ..
I'LL HUNT DOWN EVERY LAST ONE!
!

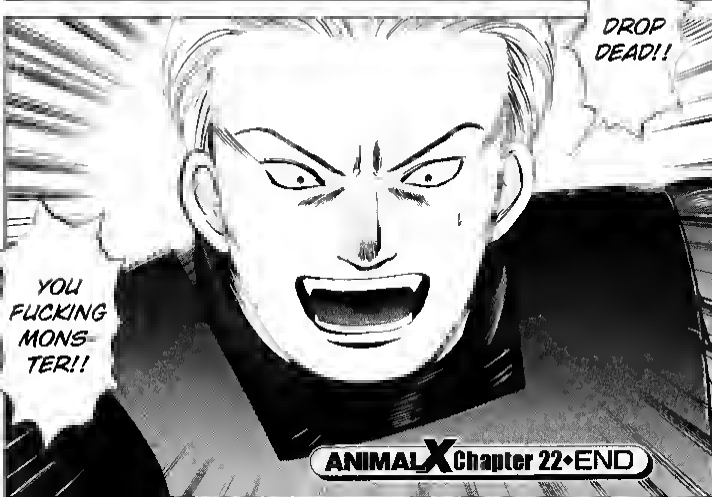
...WHERE IS THIS...?
DAMN, IT'S LIKE A MAZE DOWN THERE. ALL COMPLICATED WITH EXITS ALL OVER THE PLACE.
WHERE ARE SHEN AND HAN..?

!?


WHERE DID THEY COME OUT...?

BANG
BANG
BANG

HAA
IMAGINE MEETING YOU IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!
HOW DO YOU LIKE HAVING THREE BULLETS IN YOU, FUCKER?
HAA
I'LL BLAST YOUR HEAD OPEN BEFORE YOUR WOUNDS HEAL!!
GET UP!



ANIMAL X Chapter 22 • END